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The invention provides the genomic sequence of AA4RP, AA4RP cDNAs and AA4RP polypeptides. Further the invention provides polynucleotides including biallelic markers derived from the AA4RP gene and from genomic regions flanking the gene. This invention also provides polynucleotides and methods suitable for genotyping a nucleic acid containing sample for one or more biallelic markers of the invention. Further, the invention provides methods to detect a statistical correlation between a biallelic marker allele and a phenotype and/or between a biallelic marker haplotype and a phenotype. The invention also relates to diagnostic methods for determining whether an individual is at risk of developing a lipid metabolism related disorder and/or a liver related disorder, or whether said individual suffers from a lipid metabolism related disorder and/or a liver related disorder as a result of a polymorphism in the AA4RP gene.

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